

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on February 18, 2004, the Examiner: (1) objected to the drawings; (2) objected to the specification and requested a substitute specification; (3) rejected claims 1, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 23, and 24 under 35 U.S. C. § 112, second paragraph, and (4) object to all claims as generally narrative and indefinite.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends FIGs. 1, 2, 12, and 20 to address the Examiner's objection to drawings, present a substitute specification to address the objections to the specification, and respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-24.

1. Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for failure to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). Applicant presents replacement sheets with the corrected Figs. 1, 2, 12, and 20 and respectfully seek withdrawal of the objection.

2. Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the Specification under 37 CFR 1.71 as being incomprehensible as to preclude a reasonable search of the prior art. Applicant respectfully submits a substitute Specification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.125. A Specification with markings to show all the changes relative to the immediate prior version has been included. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the substitute Specification and withdraw the objection to the Specification.

3. Rejection of claims 1, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, and 22-23

Claims 1, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, and 22-23 are rejected under 35 § U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, and 13 have been amended to address the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 3-6, 9, 14-24 have been canceled, and thus the rejection of these claims is moot.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to examine pending claims 1, 2, 7, 8, and 10-13.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 17, 2004

By:



Ranjeev K. Singh
Reg. No. 47,093

Attachments:

1. A substitute specification (48 pages);
2. A specification with markings to show all the changes relative to the immediate prior version (54 pages);
3. Replacement drawing sheets (4 sheets, FIGs. 1, 2, 12, and 20); and
4. Annotated sheets (4 sheets, FIGs. 1, 2, 12, and 20).